TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 21, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 16 totaled an estimated 15.3 billion ton-miles, 5.6 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 225.3 billion ton-miles, 5.7 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 16 totaled 356,139 cars, 6.0 percent below 1982, but 5.4 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 8.0 percent in the East, 2.8 percent in the South and 6.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 12 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of nonmetallic minerals were up 1,463 cars, or 13.3 percent, loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,565 cars, or 17.1 percent, and lumber and wood products increased by 1,130 cars, or 19.1 percent. Seventeen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 9 totaled 38,269 cars, up 14.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 66,133 trailers and/or containers, 7.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of the year was 577,451 cars, 14.9 percent higher than last year, and 986,452 trailers and/or containers, up 11.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/16/83:

	Loadings in Week ended April 16, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	20,765	D	3,617	14.8	D	476	2.2
Other farm products	3,558	I	539	17.9	I	920	34.9
Metallic ores	15,789	D	4,473	22.1	I	1,417	9.9
Coal	97,718	D	22,781	18.9	I	1,608	1.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,448	I	46	0.5	I	432	4.8
Nonmetallic minerals	12,462	I	1,463	13.3	I	1,672	15.5
Grain mill products	12,107	I	1,229	11.3	I	1,546	14.6
Food and kindred products	12,154	D	380	3.0	I	368	3.1
Primary forest products	14,758	D	1,609	9.8	I	703	5.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,057	I	1,130	19.1	I	495	7.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,330	D	1,036	6.3	I	625	4.3
Chemicals and allied products	22,088	D	1,184	5.1	D	418	1.9
Petroleum products	4,643	D	300	6.1	I	265	6.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,229	I	118	1.2	I	752	7.9
Coke	4,658	D	534	10.3	D	1	0.0
Metals and products	8,550	D	1,893	18.1	D	75	0.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,554	I	2,565	17.1	I	2,304	15.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,723	D	241	2.7	I	965	12.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,632	I	363	4.4	I	670	8.4
All other carloads	49,680	I	9,209	22.8	I	4,290	9.5
LCL traffic	236	D	1,185	83.4	I	32	15.7
Total Cars Loaded	356,139	D	22,571	6.0	I	18,094	5.4
Corresponding week of 1982	378,710						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (15 weeks)	5,176,857	5,685,708	D 8.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
14 weeks ended April 9	210.0	222.7	D 5.7
Week ended April 16	15.3	16.2	D 5.6
15 weeks cumulative	225.3	238.9	D 5.7

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